

## Notes and Quotes

Spiritual Gifts are special abilities given to Christians by God's Spirit to help **strengthen, encourage, and build up** the church community, so that God's Kingdom agenda is fulfilled through the church in the world.

Tongues is represented as consisting of meaningful, though not always intelligible, utterances inspired by the Holy Spirit and employed **for the purpose of** witness, worship, and the building up of the church. (Acts 2:11; 10:46; 1 Cor. 14:2, 14–17, 28).

As a spiritual gift, it is the ability to pray to or praise God with beneficial wordless phrases or utterances not familiar as a known language, and with such joy-filled intimacy with Christ that faith is strengthened and ministries become effective.  
C. Bryant

In the New Testament prophetic utterances are an intelligible word of revelation from God to the hearts and minds of those present for their up building and encouragement and consolation – 1 Cor. 14:3-5, 26, 30-31

Prophecy is the self revealing manifestation of the redeeming God confronting, challenging, comforting, and instructing His people. - M. Turner

As a spiritual gift, it is the ability to link biblical truths and God's will for today's living and to be an instrument for revealing or interpreting historic or current messages from God for righteous and just living in today's world - C. Bryant

**1 Thessalonians 5:19-22** - <sup>19</sup> Do not put out the Spirit's fire; <sup>20</sup> do not treat prophecies with contempt. <sup>21</sup> Test everything. Hold on to the good. <sup>22</sup> Avoid every kind of evil.

## **The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts**

### **1 Cor 12:7**

- <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

### **1 Cor 14:3-31**

- <sup>3</sup> But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.
- <sup>12</sup> So it is with you. Since you are eager to have spiritual gifts, try to excel in gifts that build up the church.
- <sup>26</sup> What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.
- <sup>31</sup> For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.

### **Ephs 4:11-16**

- <sup>11</sup> It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

### **1 Peter 4:10-11**

- Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. <sup>11</sup> Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God: whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

### **Summary - Spiritual Gifts Are For:**

Service toward Others  
Building Christian Unity  
Deepening our Knowledge of the Son of God  
Developing Spiritual Maturity  
Providing Comfort, Encouragement, Instruction, and Strength  
And Giving Glory to God